



# Senate

## File No. 734

General Assembly

February Session, 2008

**(Reprint of File No. 158)**

Substitute Senate Bill No. 279  
As Amended by House Amendment Schedule  
"A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
April 25, 2008

### **AN ACT CONCERNING AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE DISCOUNTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 38a-683 of the 2008 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

4 (a) The premium charges for a private passenger nonfleet  
5 automobile under an automobile liability or physical damage  
6 insurance policy for any principal operator who has attained the age of  
7 sixty years and has submitted proof of successful completion of an  
8 accident prevention course approved by the Commissioner of Motor  
9 Vehicles shall be appropriately modified to reflect such operator's  
10 reduced exposure to loss. Such course shall be completed within one  
11 year prior to the initial application of the discount or, for subsequent  
12 applications of the discount, within one year of the expiration of the  
13 current discount period. If proof of successful completion of such  
14 course is submitted during the term of a policy, any premium  
15 modification shall become effective upon the next renewal. A

16 minimum discount of five per cent shall be applicable to premium  
17 charges for such automobile for policies effective on and after July 1,  
18 1983. The discount shall apply to the premium charges for the  
19 automobile for at least twenty-four months. This section shall not  
20 apply to any group automobile insurance policy issued pursuant to  
21 section 38a-803 under which premiums are broadly averaged for the  
22 group rather than determined individually.

23 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt regulations, in  
24 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the content  
25 and other requirements of the accident prevention course referred to in  
26 subsection (a) of this section, including, but not limited to, the number  
27 of hours of classroom instruction, approval of schools and instructors  
28 offering the course, [and] certificate issuance upon successful  
29 completion, and approval of such courses to be taken on the Internet.

30 (c) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
31 chapter 54, pertaining to the requirements of such Internet courses  
32 established in subsection (b) of this section. Such regulations shall  
33 include, but not be limited to, methods to ensure verification of (1) the  
34 course enrollee's identity at the time of registration and throughout the  
35 duration of such approved Internet course, (2) the participation of such  
36 enrollee throughout the duration of such course, (3) the completion of  
37 such course by such enrollee within any time requirements imposed  
38 by such course or the commissioner, and (4) the successful completion  
39 of such course by such enrollee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2008	38a-683

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - None	None	None

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The Department of Motor Vehicles can perform provisions of this bill within its existing budgetary resources.

House "A" clarified language in the bill but did not change the original fiscal impact stated in the file copy.

**The Out Years**

There is no out-year fiscal impact.

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**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 279 (as amended by House "A")\******AN ACT CONCERNING AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE DISCOUNTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill adds to what the Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) commissioner must include in regulations regarding accident-prevention courses drivers age 60 and over may take to qualify for an auto insurance premium discount. By law, the regulations must include the number of classroom instruction hours, DMV approval of schools and instructors, and certificate issuance to those who successfully complete the course. This bill requires the regulations to also address approval of courses that drivers take on the Internet.

The bill requires the commissioner to adopt regulations regarding such Internet courses, including methods to verify a person's (1) identity when he or she registers for, and throughout, the course; (2) participation throughout the course's duration; (3) course completion within any time requirements the course or commissioner requires; and (4) successful course completion.

\*House Amendment "A" deletes a requirement that each commissioner-approved accident prevention course offered on the Internet include a final examination that the course participant take in person. It requires the commissioner to adopt regulations regarding such Internet courses that include verification of an enrollee's identity and participation throughout the course and successful course completion.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2008

**BACKGROUND**

***Auto Insurance Premium Discount***

By law, a driver age 60 or older is eligible for an automobile insurance premium discount for successfully completing a DMV-approved accident-prevention course. The premium discount, which is effective at the policy's next renewal, must be at least 5% and apply for at least 24 months. The driver must complete the course within the year before he or she applies for an initial discount. For any future discount, the driver must complete a course within the year before the current discount expires.

***Legislative History***

The Senate passed the bill (File 158) on April 16, 2008. The House adopted House Amendment "A" and passed the bill as amended on April 23, 2008.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/06/2008)

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 35 Nay 0 (04/09/2008)